



**Graves County Soccer Association, Inc**  
**P. O. Box 5059**  
**Mayfield, KY 42066**

Policy Statement 99-03, Revised 03/05/07

Approved Andrew Henden

### **Rule Modification for Recreational Play**

**GCSA provides recreational soccer to learn the fundamentals of the sport and for enjoyment of the game.**

1. All children should be allowed to play any position they are interested in.
2. The emphasis at the Under 4 age level is enjoyment of the game.
3. The emphasis at the Under 6 age level is to teach the fundamentals of ball handling (dribbling, passing, shooting) and the basics of the game.
4. The emphasis at the Under 8 age level is to teach the fundamentals of ball handling (dribbling, passing, shooting, adding trapping, throw-ins, corner kicks, and goalkeeping) and the basics of the game.
5. The emphasis at the Under 10 age level is to teach and refine the fundamentals of ball handling, and basics of the game. This age group will begin to learn the fundamentals of TEAM play, tactics, and strategies. More competitive style play is encouraged at this age level. Team play and good sportsmanship are stressed.
6. The emphasis at the Under 12 age level and Under 14 age level is to begin to refine soccer skills and abide by all rules of soccer. Training and conditioning are part of the program at these ages. Competitive style play should be expected at these age levels. Team play and good sportsmanship are stressed.

**See attached sheets for specific rule modifications for each age level.**



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U4 (Tykes Soccer) Age Level**

Children shall be 2 or 3 years old on the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

"Play Days" with Dates/Field(s)/Time(s) will be scheduled during Recreational season. Players will not be rostered to teams. All players present on "Play Day" will be assigned to a field.

Games and activities will be directed by one "Field Coach" during "Play Day" games. No referee will be used.

No practices will be Scheduled for U4 Tykes Soccer.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 50 feet wide X 70 feet long.\*

No Goal area shall be marked.

No Center circle shall be marked.

Goals are 4 feet high and 9 feet wide.

The games will be played with a size 3 ball.

When games are played, game modifications will be at the discretion of the "Field Coach" within the guidelines below.

The games will consist of quarters no longer than 8 minutes with breaks between quarters at the half. Games will end at the end of "regulation" play. No overtimes or shoot outs shall be played.

We will man the field with 3 players. A parent may accompany their child on field during play.

All players will play approximately one half of each half. Free substitution is allowed.

This age group will NOT use a goalkeeper. Out-of-bounds at the ends will be taken as a free kick at the end of the sideline. All free kicks will be indirect free kicks. There will be no penalty kicks. These will also be played as indirect free kicks from the point play was stopped. The offsides rule will not be used by this age group. Sliding tackles are NOT allowed at this age level.

\*Minimum size is 15 x 20 yards.



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U-6 Age Level**

Children shall be 4 or 5 years old on the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

Games will be officiated by one referee.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 50 feet wide X 70 feet long.\*

No Goal area shall be marked.

Goals are 4 feet high and 9 feet wide.

The games will be played with a size 3 ball.

The game consists of 4 – 8 minute quarters with 2 minutes between quarters and 5 minutes at the half. Games will end at the end of "regulation" play. No overtimes or kick-offs shall be played.

We will man the field with 3 players. Roster limit is maximum 6.

All players will play approximately one half of each half. Free substitution is allowed.

This age group will NOT use a goalkeeper. Coaches will be encouraged to arrange players on the field so they can work together as a unit playing offense and defense. Out-of-bounds at the ends will be taken as free kicks at the end of the sideline.

All free kicks will be indirect free kicks. There will be no penalty kicks. These will also be played as indirect free kicks from the point play was stopped. The offsides rule will not be used by this age group; however, coaches abusing this allowance will be considered in violation of "Unsporting Conduct". Sliding tackles are NOT allowed at this age level.

Coaches may coach on the field.

\*Minimum size 15 X 20 yards.



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U-8 Age Level**

Children shall be 6 or 7 years old on the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

Games will be officiated by one referee.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 30 yards wide X 50 yards long.\*

Goal and penalty areas shall be marked at appropriate dimensions for the field size.

Center circle shall be marked at approximately 7 yards.

Goals are 6 feet high and 12 feet wide.

The game will be played with a size 3 ball.

The game consists of 4 – 10 minute quarters and 2 minutes between quarters and 5 minutes at the half. Games will end at the end of "regulation" play. No overtime or kick-offs shall be played.

We will man the field with 5 players one of whom is a goalkeeper. Roster limit is maximum 10.

All players will play approximately one half of each half. Substitution is allowed during any stoppage of play.

This age group will use a goalkeeper.

All free kicks will be indirect free kicks. There will be no penalty kicks. These will also be played as indirect free kicks from the point play was stopped. The offside rule will not be used by this age group; coaches abusing this allowance will be considered in violation of "Unsporting Conduct". Sliding tackles are NOT allowed at this age level.

Coaches may coach from the sidelines and are restricted to an area within 10 yards on either side of the center line. No coaches on the field. No coaching from the goal lines (ends of the field) or the opposite sideline.

\*Minimum size 20 yards wide X 40 yards long.



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U-10 Age Level**

Children shall be 8 or 9 years old as of the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

Typically games will be officiated by three referees, grade 8 or below.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 50 yards wide X 70 yards long.

Field shall be marked according to KYSA Guidelines.

The goals are 7 feet high and 18 feet wide.

The games will be played with a size 4 ball.

The game consists of 2 – 25 minute halves with 5 minutes at the half. Games will end at the end of “regulation” play. No overtimes or shoot-outs shall be played.

We will man the field with 6 players. Roster limit is maximum 12.

All players will play approximately 50 % of the game. Substitutions will be:

- prior to a throw-in in its favor
- prior to a goal kick by either team
- after a goal by either team
- after an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
- at half-time, or between periods

This age group will use goalkeepers. The offsides rule will be used by this age group. We will use the back passing rule. Slide tackles are NOT allowed at this age level.

Coaches may coach from the sideline and are restricted to an area within 10 yards on either side of the center line. No coaches on the field. No coaching from the goal lines (ends of the field) or the opposite sideline.



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U-12 Age Level**

Children shall be 10 or 11 years old on the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

Games will be officiated by three referees, grade 8 or below.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 40 yards wide x 80 yards long.

Field shall be marked according to KYSA Guidelines.

The goals are 7 feet high and 21 feet wide.

The games will be played with a size 4 ball.

The game consists of 2 – 30 minute halves with 10 minutes at the half. Games will end at the end of "regulation" play. No overtime or shoot-outs shall be played.

We will man the field with 8 players. Roster limit is a maximum 16.

All player will play approximately 50% of the game. Substitution will be:

- prior to a throw-in in its favor
- prior to a goal kick by either team
- after a goal by either team
- after an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
- at half-time or between periods

Coaches may coach from the sideline and are restricted to an area within 10 yards on either side of the center line. No coaches on the field. No coaching from the goal lines (ends of the field) or the opposite sideline.



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U-14 Age Level**

Children shall be 12 or 13 years old on the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

Games will be officiated by three referees, grade 8 or below.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 70 yards wide x 110 yards long.

Field shall be marked according to KYSA Guidelines.

The goals are 8 feet high and 24 feet wide.

The games will be played with a size 5 ball.

The game consists of 2 – 35 minute halves with 10 minutes at the half. Games will end at the end of "regulation" play. No overtime or shoot-outs shall be played.

We will man the field with 11 players. Roster limit is a maximum 18.

All players will play approximately 50% of the game. Substitution will be:

- prior to a throw-in in its favor
- prior to a goal kick by either team
- after a goal by either team
- after an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
- at half-time or between periods

Coaches may coach from the sideline and are restricted to an area within 10 yards on either side of the center line. No coaches on the field. No coaching from the goal lines (ends of the field) or the opposite sideline.



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U-16 Age Level**

Children shall be 14 or 15 years old on the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

Games will be officiated by three referees, grade 8 or below.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 70 yards wide x 110 yards long.

Field shall be marked according to KYSA Guidelines.

The goals are 8 feet high and 24 feet wide.

The games will be played with a size 5 ball.

The game consists of 2 – 40 minute halves with 10 minutes at the half. Games will end at the end of "regulation" play. No overtime or shoot-outs shall be played.

We will man the field with 11 players. Roster limit is a maximum 18.

All players will play approximately 50% of the game. Substitution will be:

- prior to a throw-in in its favor
- prior to a goal kick by either team
- after a goal by either team
- after an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
- at half-time or between periods

Coaches may coach from the sideline and are restricted to an area within 10 yards on either side of the center line. No coaches on the field. No coaching from the goal lines (ends of the field) or the opposite sideline.



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**Graves County Soccer Association**  
**U-18 Age Level**

Children shall be 16 or 17 years old on the August 1<sup>st</sup> preceding the playing season.

Games will be officiated by three referees, grade 8 or below.

**The FIFA rules of soccer will apply with the following allowances:**

The field is 70 yards wide x 110 yards long.

Field shall be marked according to KYSA Guidelines.

The goals are 8 feet high and 24 feet wide.

The games will be played with a size 5 ball.

The game consists of 2 – 40 minute halves with 10 minutes at the half. Games will end at the end of "regulation" play. No overtime or shoot-outs shall be played.

We will man the field with 11 players. Roster limit is a maximum 18.

All players will play approximately 50% of the game. Substitution will be:

- prior to a throw-in in its favor
- prior to a goal kick by either team
- after a goal by either team
- after an injury, by either team, when the referee stops play
- at half-time or between periods

Coaches may coach from the sideline and are restricted to an area within 10 yards on either side of the center line. No coaches on the field. No coaching from the goal lines (ends of the field) or the opposite sideline.